

Message Text

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ACTION AF-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 A-01 /004 W

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O 201502Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0961

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 2353

FOR AF BLAKE AND AF/EX KRYZA

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, NG

SUBJECT: TDY COVERAGE DURING SUMMER

1. AFTER RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON, I LEFT WITH IMPRESSION THAT NIAMEY'S NEED FOR TDY COVERAGE THIS SUMMER WAS RECOGNIZED AND THAT HELP WOULD SHORTLY BE ON ITS WAY IN BOTH ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMUNICATIONS AREAS. I AM INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT SITUATION HERE ON BOTH FRONTS AND WOULD APPRECIATESOONEST WORD ON WHAT HELP WE CAN EXPECT AND WHEN.

2. TO PUT IT MILDLY, WE ARE IN MORE THAN DESPERATE STRAITS. WITH MEDEVAC LAST WEEK END OF CURRAN AND DEPARTURE IN NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS OF BUCHE AND MULL, BOTH OF WHOM NOW FULLY INVOLVED IN DEPARTURE REQUIREMENTS, ENTIRE OFFICER COMPLEMENT OF EMBASSY COMPRISES FSO-7 WAYNE WHITE. TO STATETHE OBVIOUS, EMBASSY CAN'T FUNCTION WITH ONE OFFICER WHO IS JUST COMPLETING HIS FIRST YEAR IN HIS FRIST OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT. WHILE DAVISON'S ARRIVAL JULY 15 AS NEW DCM WILL HELP SITUATION, FACT REMAINS THAT WHITE FACES LONG SUMMER WITH NO RELIEF IN SIGHT UNTIL END OF AUGUST WHEN HARWOOD ARRIVES.

3. ASIDE FROM FACT THIS IS NO WAY TO TREAT JUNIOR

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OFFICER WHO JUST BACKFROM R&RAND IS ALREADY

SHOWING STRESSES BECAUSE OF STRAINS UNDER WHICH HE IS

WORKING, THIS IS NO WAY TO MAN A
POST AND MANAGE US FUNDS AND PROPERTIES TO SAY NOTHING
OF SUPPORTING AID, USIA AND PEACE CORPS. THEY HAVE ALL
BEEN PATIENT BUT THEY TOO ARE BECOMING SHORT TEMPERED.

4. WE ARE ENGOURAGED BY STATE 141466 WHICH SUGGESTS
THAT TDY HELP FROM AID MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING. IN THIS
CONNECTION, IS BUD LAKE AVAILABLE? HE WAS OUT HERE ON
TDY FROM AID LAST SUMMER, KNOWS THE PLACE AND TOLD ME IN
WASHINGTON HE WOULD LIKE TO COME BACK.

5. THERE IS NO POINT IN AGONIZING FURTHER. OUR NEEDS
ARE MORE THAN CRITICAL AND WE REQUIRE AT LEAST ONE
SEASONED GSO/ADMIN OFFICER WITHIN WEEK TO REMAIN THROUGH
AUGUST. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO ANY TDY HELP FROM AID.
IF THIS POSES PROBLEMS CAN JOHN THOMAS IN A HELP WITH
TROUBLE SHOOTER I DISCUSSED WITH HIM.

6. OUR COMMUNICATORS ARE ALSO SHOWING THE STRAIN. WHEN
CAN THEY GET RELIEF.HECK

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